

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

In the Matter of:

	)	Docket HWCA 01/02-3001
Quemetco, Inc.	)	CONSENT ORDER
720 South Seventh Avenue	)	
City Of Industry, CA.91746	)	Health and Safety Code
EPA ID # CAD 066 233 966	)	Section 25187
	)	
Respondent.	)	
_____	)	

The State Department of Toxic Substances Control (Department) and Quemetco, Inc. (Respondent) enter into this Consent Order and agree as follows:

1. Respondent generates, handles, treats, and stores, and/or disposes of hazardous waste at 720 South Seventh Avenue, City of Industry, California 91746 (Site).
2. The Department inspected the Site on September 28, 2000.
3. The Department alleges the following violation:
  - 3.1 Respondent violated Title 22, California Code of Regulations, section 66265.193 (e)(1)(C), which requires that the facility maintain its secondary containment external liner, free of cracks and gaps, in that on or about September 28, 2000, Respondent failed to maintain the external liner of its secondary containment system free of cracks and gap, thereby creating the potential of a release to the environment.
4. A dispute exists regarding the alleged violation.
5. The parties wish to avoid the expense of litigation and to ensure prompt compliance.
6. Jurisdiction exists pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25187.
7. Respondent waives any right to a hearing in this matter.

8. This Consent Order shall constitute full settlement of the violation alleged above, but does not limit the Department from taking appropriate enforcement action concerning other violations, nor limit Respondent's right to assert all appropriate defenses to other alleged violations.

9. For the purpose of this Consent Order, Respondent does not admit the allegations set forth in paragraph 3.1 of this Consent Order.

#### SCHEDULE FOR COMPLIANCE

10. Respondent shall comply with the following:

10.1.1. Respondent shall perform a Geotechnical Investigation(s) and Contamination investigation at the wastewater treatment area to substantiate its claim that the soil characteristics underneath the area have not caused or contributed to the cracking of the secondary containment. Respondent shall also verify whether or not contaminants have penetrated through the cracks and affected the underlying soils. Respondent shall do this by coring the concrete at the cracks, examining the concrete pathways, sampling underlying soils and analyzing both concrete and soils. Respondent shall also propose appropriate remediations for the cracked secondary containment and any impacted materials outside of it.

10.1.2. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall provide a combined Geotechnical and Contaminant Investigative Workplan for DTSC review and approval.

10.1.3 Within 30 days of the approved Geotechnical and Contaminant Investigative Workplan, Respondent shall initiate the Geotechnical and Contaminant Investigative work.

10.1.4 Within 30 days of the completion of the Geotechnical and Contaminant Investigative Work, Respondent shall provide to the Department's Permitting Branch for review and approval the results of the investigations, and a

Clean-up and Repair Work plan which sets forth the procedures necessary to remediate contamination and repair or replace the secondary containment.

10.1.5 Any amendment to the Clean-up and Repair Workplan shall have prior approval by the Department's Permitting Branch.

10.1.6 Respondent shall complete work set forth in the Clean-up and Repair Workplan within one year from DTSC's approval of the Clean-up and Repair Workplan, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Department.

10.2. Submittals: All submittals from Respondent pursuant to this Consent Order shall be sent simultaneously to:

Florence Gharibian, Branch Chief  
Statewide Compliance Division  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1011 North Grandview Avenue  
Glendale, California 91201

Jose Kou, Branch Chief  
Facility Permitting Branch  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1011 North Grandview Avenue  
Glendale, California 91201

10.3. Communications: All approvals and decisions of the Department made regarding such submittals and notifications shall be communicated to Respondent in writing by a Branch Chief, Department of Toxic Substances Control, or his/her designee. No informal advice, guidance, suggestions, or comments by the Department regarding reports, plans, specifications, schedules, or any other writings by Respondent shall be construed to relieve Respondent of its obligation to obtain such formal approvals as may be required.

10.4. Department Review and Approval: If the Department determines that any report, plan, schedule, or other document submitted for approval pursuant to this Consent Order fails to comply with the Order or fails to protect public health or safety or the environment, the Department may return the document to Respondent with recommended changes and a date by which Respondent must submit to the Department a revised document incorporating the recommended changes.

10.5. Compliance with Applicable Laws: Respondent shall carry out this Order in compliance with all local, State, and federal requirements, including but not limited to requirements to obtain permits and to assure worker safety.

10.6. Endangerment during Implementation: In the event that the Department determines that any circumstances or activity (whether or not pursued in compliance with this Consent Order) are creating an imminent or substantial endangerment to the health or welfare of people on the site or in the surrounding area or to the environment, the Department may order Respondent to stop further implementation hereinafter "Stop Work Order" for such period of time as needed to abate the endangerment. Any deadline in this Consent Order directly affected by a Stop Work Order under this section shall be extended for the term of such Stop Work Order.

10.7. Liability: Nothing in this Consent Order shall constitute or be construed as a satisfaction or release from liability for any conditions or claims arising as a result of past, current, or future operations of Respondent, except as provided in this Consent Order. Notwithstanding compliance with the terms of this Consent Order, Respondent may be required to take further actions as are necessary to protect public health or welfare or the environment.

10.8. Site Access: Access to the Site shall be provided at all reasonable times to employees, contractors, and consultants of the Department, and any other agency having jurisdiction to implement this Consent Order. Nothing in this Consent Order is intended to limit in any way the right of entry or inspection that any agency may

otherwise have by operation of any law. The Department and its authorized representatives may enter and move freely about all property at the Site at all reasonable times for purposes including but not limited to: inspecting records, operating logs, and contracts relating to the Site; reviewing the progress of Respondent in carrying out the terms of this Consent Order; and conducting such tests as the Department may deem necessary. Respondent shall permit such persons to inspect and copy all records, documents, and other writings, including all sampling and monitoring data, in any way pertaining to work undertaken pursuant to this Consent Order.

10.9. Sampling, Data, and Document Availability: Respondent shall permit the Department and its authorized representatives to inspect and copy all sampling, testing, monitoring, and other data generated by Respondent or on Respondent's behalf in any way pertaining to work undertaken pursuant to this Consent Order. Respondent shall allow the Department and its authorized representatives to take duplicates of any samples collected by Respondent pursuant to this Consent Order. Respondent shall maintain a central depository of the data, reports, and other documents prepared pursuant to this Consent Order. All such data, reports, and other documents shall be preserved by Respondent for a minimum of six years after the conclusion of all activities under this Consent Order. If the Department requests that some or all of these documents be preserved for a longer period of time, Respondent shall either comply with that request, deliver the documents to the Department, or permit the Department to copy the documents prior to destruction. Respondent shall notify the Department in writing at least six months prior to destroying any documents prepared pursuant to this Consent Order.

10.10. Government Liabilities: The State of California shall not be liable for injuries or damages to persons or property resulting from acts or omissions by Respondent or related parties specified in paragraph 12.3, in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Order, nor shall the State of California be held as a party to any

contract entered into by Respondent or its agents in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Order.

10.11. Incorporation of Plans and Reports: All plans, schedules, and reports that require Department approval and are submitted by Respondent pursuant to this Consent Order are incorporated in this Consent Order upon approval by the Department.

10.12. Extension Requests: If Respondent is unable to perform any activity or submit any document within the time required under this Consent Order, the Respondent may, prior to expiration of the time, request an extension of time in writing. The extension request shall include a justification for the delay.

10.13. Extension Approvals: If the Department determines that good cause exists for an extension, it will grant the request and specify in writing a new compliance schedule.

### PAYMENTS

11. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Consent Order, Respondent shall pay the Department a total of \$17,500.00 Respondent's check shall be made payable to Department of Toxic Substances Control, and shall be delivered together with the attached Payment Voucher to:

Accounting Office  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1001 I Street, 21st floor  
P. O. Box 806  
Sacramento, California 95812-0806

A photocopy of the check shall be sent to:

Florence Gharibian, Branch Chief  
Statewide Compliance Division  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1011 North Grandview Avenue  
Glendale, California 91201

Jose Kou  
Facility Permitting Branch  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1011 North Grandview Avenue  
Glendale, California 91201

Office of Legal Counsel  
Department of Toxic Substances Control  
1001 I Street, 23rd floor  
P. O. Box 806  
Sacramento, California 95812-0806

If Respondent fails to make payment as provided above, Respondent agrees to pay interest at the rate established pursuant to HSC section 25360.1 and to pay all costs incurred by the Department in pursuing collection including attorney's fees.

#### OTHER PROVISIONS

12.1. Additional Enforcement Actions: By agreeing to this Consent Order, the Department does not waive the right to take further enforcement actions, except to the extent provided in this Consent Order.

12.2. Penalties for Noncompliance: Failure to comply with the terms of this Consent Order may subject Respondent to civil penalties and/or punitive damages for any costs incurred by the Department or other government agencies as a result of such failure, as provided by Health & Safety Code section 25188 and other applicable provisions of law.

12.3. Parties Bound: This Consent Order shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and its officers, directors, agents, receivers, trustees, employees, contractors, consultants, successors, and assignees, including but not limited to individuals, partners, and subsidiary and parent corporations, and upon the Department and any successor agency that may have responsibility for and jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Consent Order.

12.4. Effective Date: The effective date of this Consent Order is the date it is signed by the Department.

12.5. Integration: This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and may not be amended, supplemented, or modified, except as provided in this agreement.

12.6. Compliance with Waste Discharge Requirements: Respondent shall comply with all applicable waste discharge requirements issued by the State Water Resources Control Board or a California regional water quality control board.

Dated: \_\_\_\_ 1/3/02 \_\_\_\_    \_[original signed by]\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Vondersaar, Vice-President  
Quemetco, Inc.

Dated: \_\_\_\_ 1/4/02 \_\_\_\_    \_[original signed by]\_\_\_\_\_  
Florence Gharibian, Branch Chief  
Statewide Compliance Division  
Department of Toxic Substances Control